

REMARKS

The final Office Action dated January 3, 2007 has been received and carefully considered. The above amendments and the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action.

With respect to the objection to the specification, the Examiner has indicated that the features of claim 7 are not disclosed in the specification. However, as the Examiner has acknowledged at the bottom of page 2 of the Office Action, the features recited in claim 7 are in fact supported by the figures, and in particular FIG. 1, which clearly shows that predetermined angle θ is a positive angle, defined such that a leading edge of the chord 11 at the front end of the duct 1 is separated a greater distance from the duct axis 12 than a trailing edge of the chord 11 at the rear end of the duct 1.

Accordingly, the specification has been amended to include a new paragraph and explicit statement responsive to the language of former claim 7. (The features of claim 7 have now been incorporated into the independent claim.) Since such features are clearly supported by the original drawings, the additional descriptions do not introduce new matter.

Withdrawal of the specification rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Examiner has objected to the feature recited in former amended claim 1, implying that the side wall of the duct

has no holes therein. To obviate and overcome this rejection, the objectionable phrase concerning no holes existing in the side wall of the duct has now been removed from claim 1. Thus, having been rendered moot, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

The present claims, as amended above, include the subject matter acknowledged to be allowable on page 4 of the current Office Action. More specifically, independent claim 1 incorporates the full subject matter of former claims 1, 2 and 7. Further, new independent claim 8 recites the full subject matter of claims 1 and 4.

Since claims 3-7 were indicated to contain allowable subject matter, amended claim 1 and new claim 8 should now be in immediate condition for allowance, together with dependent claims 3-4, 6, and 9-11.

It is further noted that the claim amendments merely involve the incorporation of existing subject matter from the dependent claims in independent form. Therefore, the amendments do not create new issues requiring substantial consideration or additional searching. Stated otherwise, the application is now in immediate condition for allowance.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the claimed invention is not anticipated and would not have been obvious to a person skilled in the art at the time the present invention was made. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections, with allowance of pending claims 1, 3 to 4, 6 and 8 to 11, is respectfully requested.

No additional fees are currently due. Notwithstanding, in the event that fees, or deficiencies in fees, are deemed necessary in connection with this or any accompanying communication, such fees may be charged to the Attorney's Deposit Account No. 07-2519.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Paul A. Guss', followed by a horizontal line.

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